

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CU-04 IO-12 HEW-08 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 AID-20 /135 W
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R 051125 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1624

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 595

C/ Y FOR INMAN

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GE, WB

SUBJ: WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL

REF: BERLIN 396

1. AT APRIL 3 MEETING, REPRESENTATIVES OF SENAT CHANCELLERY AND DEPARTMENT FOR FAMILY, YOUTH, AND SPORTS PROVIDED MISSION OFFICERS WITH FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF SENAT ATTITUDE TOWARDS FORTHCOMING WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL, AND, IN PARTICULAR, TOWARDS POSSIBLE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS WHO VISIT WEST BERLIN (PARA 2, BERLIN 396). SENAT REPRESENTATIVES EXPLAINED THAT THEY WERE FLATLY OPPOSED TO STAGING ANY SORT OF COUNTERFESTIVAL IN WEST BERLIN, AND ALSO FOUND IT UNDESIRABLE TO PROGRAM ADDITIONAL CULTURAL OR YOUTH ACTIVITIES OF A LESS DEMONSTRATIVE KIND DURING THE FESTIVAL. GOAL OF SENAT IS TO PRESENT NORMAL, EVERYDAY PICTURE OF THE CITY AND ITS ACTIVITIES ON ASSUMPTION THAT THIS WOULD BE SUFFICIENT RECOMMENDATION TO THOSE FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS - CHIEFLY FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES - WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO VISIT WEST BERLIN. THIS GOAL WOULD BE ILL- SERVED IN SENAT VIEW BY SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS THAT MIGHT APPEAR CONTRIVED, THE MORE SO AS JULY AND AUGUST ARE RELATIVELY INACTIVE MONTHS AS FAR AS CULTURAL EVENTS ARE CONCERNED. SENAT IS THEREFORE NOT UNDERTAKING OR SUPPORTING ANY SPECIAL PROGRAMS IN WEST BERLIN DURING FESTIVAL.

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2. SENAT APPROVED, HOWEVER, PLANS OF BERLIN LANDESJUGENDRING (BERLIN'S UMBRELLA YOUTH ORGANIZATION) TO SET UP EASILY-RECOGNIZABLE INFORMATION BOOTH OPPOSITE MAJOR CROSSING- POINT FROM EAST BERLIN, WHERE FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE, AT OWN INITIATIVE, TO INQUIRE INTO CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN WEST BERLIN AND TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING ACCOMMODATION, CITY TOURS, ETC. LANDESJUGENDRING ALSO INTENDS TO PUBLISH AND DISTRIBUTE SPECIAL BROCHURES IN SEVERAL LANGUAGES DEALING WITH WEST BERLIN'S HISTORY AND CURRENT SITUATION, LEISURE- TIME AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES IN CITY, AND ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF LANDESJUGENDRING. IT IS AS YET UNCERTAIN WHETHER FUNDS FOR ABOVE PROJECTS WILL COME FROM SENAT OR FEDERAL SOURCES. FURTHER POSSIBILITY UNDER CONSIDERATION IS " BUMMELPASS" FOR FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS, PROVIDING FREE OR REDUCED- PRICE ENTRY TO CERTAIN EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

3. SENAT REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT SENAT WOULD OF COURSE HAVE NO OBJECTION SHOULD AMERIKA HAUS DECIDE TO SCHEDULE ACTIVE PROGRAM DURING FESTIVAL. MISSION OFFICER MADE POINT THAT US MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN PROMOTING SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITIES, WHETHER WITHIN AMERIKA HAUS OR NOT, BUT THAT AS YET PLANS WERE STILL INDEFINITE. KLEIN

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